

## ER Site No. 34: Centrifuge Oil Spill (TA-III)

ADS: 1306

Operable Unit: Tech Area III & V

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### Site History

The Centrifuge Facility is located in the northeast portion of TA-III, near Building 6520, and contains both indoor and outdoor centrifuges with associated support buildings. ER Site 34 is a 90-ft-diameter area beneath the outdoor centrifuge. Interviews had suggested that one or more oil releases may have occurred at the site. The Centrifuge Facility has been used for acceleration and loading tests from 1955 to the present.

Aerial photographs from 1973 to 1990 were examined for signs of soil disturbances, vegetation changes, or new construction that could impact conditions at Site 34. None were found within the site boundaries or within 1000 ft of the site that had any relationship to or impact on the site.

In May 1995, three shallow, vertical boreholes were drilled through the concrete floor of the centrifuge adjacent to the control box. Drilling of an angled borehole under the control box was not possible due to the confined space of the centrifuge. According to site workers, 2 ft of oil-stained soil were removed from the area beneath the control box prior to the current construction. Now a metal plate covers a 2-in. thick concrete layer under which there is a 2-ft layer of absorbent clay material. Beneath all of this is a metal substructure. Samples were collected at 5-ft intervals to a total depth of 30 ft in the three vertical boreholes.

Ten soil samples were collected and analyzed for TPH. None of the sample results were above the method detection limit (MDL) of 20 mg/kg.

### Constituents of Concern

Mineral-based hydraulic oil

## **Current Hazards**

The site has been fully investigated and sampled. There are no current hazards at this site related to contamination of the surface or subsurface soils. There may be structures or stored materials that remain at the site that are a potential hazard.

## **Current Status of Work**

The site was recommended for No Further Action in the June 1996 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Facility Investigation (RFI) Report. One comment was received in a Notice of Deficiency (NOD) from the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) for the RFI Report in July 1997; a response was returned in October 1997. In March 1998, two comments were received in a 2nd NOD; a response was returned in July 1998. On May 5, 2000, NMED found Site 34 to be acceptable for No Further Action (NFA) petition. The NFA was approved by NMED on November 19, 2001, after completing the public review and permit modification process.

## **Future Work Planned**

No future work is planned.

## **Waste Volume Estimated/Generated**

No waste was generated at this site.

**Information for ER Site 34 was last updated Jan 22, 2003.**